

**Women's Health Initiative Advisory Council Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
July 28, 2022**

The meeting of the Women's Health Initiative Advisory Council was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Rachel Hays, Chair via WebEx. The meeting was held In-Person and via Web-Ex. The In-person location for the meeting was Conference Room LLA, of the Nebraska State Office Building, located at 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska.

**ROLL CALL (Introductions)**

**Members attending Via WebEx:**

Amber Grob  
Sara Morgan  
Ebony Byars  
Ashley Carroll  
Rachel Hays  
Celeste Illian  
Samantha Kenning  
Julie Tabor  
Kathryn Fiandt  
Victoria Vinton

**Members Absent:**

Dr. Gary Anthone  
Kailey Snyder  
Bethany Arnold  
Tami DeBonis

**Guests:**

Stacie Sinclair (Nebraska Palliative Care)  
Sarah Dempsey  
Mariel Harding and Joanna Murray

**Also Attending by WebEx:**

Shirley Pickens-White, DHHS Staff

A quorum was present. Introductions made.

Hays made the following announcement in reference to the Open Meeting Act.

*Open Meeting Act Location Announcement: In accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is located with the Office of Women's Health Initiative staff. The Women's Health Advisory Council Meeting Notice along with the agenda were posted on the Public Meeting Calendar on July 14, 2022.*

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** Vinton made the motion, seconded by Morgan to approve the minutes for the April 28, 2022 meeting of the Women's Health Advisory Council. Voting Yes: Grob, Morgan, Byars, Carroll, Illian, Kenning, Tabor, Fiandt, Vinton. Voting No: None Abstentions: None. Absent: Dr. Anthone, Snyder, Arnold, DeBonis. **Motion carried**

**Vacancies:**

The following positions are still open: OB/GYN, APRN, Female Healthcare Consumer Age 66-older, Pediatrician, Geriatrics RN. Recommendation for position of Private Healthcare Industry Rep forwarded to Governor's Office today.

**Public Comment:** None

**Legislative Committee Update/Membership/Strategic Planning:**

Carroll provided a subcommittee update. They are preparing a short presentation for the Association of Women's Health Obstetric and Neonatal Nurse Conference in the Fall. The conference is September 8<sup>th</sup>. This will be an opportunity to engage with that audience on what is WHAC and how they can get credible objective information on women's health topic. Carroll and Byers are taking the lead on the presentation. Thank you to Samantha Kenning for presenting this opportunity.

Carroll has connected with Senator Kavanaugh and she asked about the opportunity to host a women's health issues forum in the Fall. Two questions posed: Are you aware of any other organizations planning similar efforts that could be partners? Have identified a couple of groups. Details are still being worked out

### **Strategic plan: Review & Discuss:**

Carroll led the discussion on the Strategic Plan. The primary purpose of the strategic plan is essentially a guideline for the Council. As a council, want to recognize that it is a living document and can continue to make changes. The Council had some minor changes. Hays asked for a motion to approve the Plan with corrections.

Motion: Vinton made the motion, seconded by Morgan to approve the Strategic Plan with the following changes: Changing the Membership Committee to active status, Membership Charter should be Appendix E, Committee Action Plan Templates should be Appendix F instead of E and SWOT Analysis should be Appendix G instead of F

Voting Yes: Grob, Morgan, Byars, Carroll, Illian, Kenning, Tabor, Fiandt, Vinton. Voting No: None

Abstentions: None. Absent: Dr. Anthone, Snyder, Arnold, DeBonis. **Motion carried**

### **Presentations:**

Sarah Dempsey gave a presentation on Roe vs Wade and Dobb vs Jackson 's opinion

Dobb-The text of the Constitution does not recognize the right to an abortion. In Roe vs Wade, Supreme Court found that abortion was a part of right to privacy. States now have authority to regulate abortions. Abortions still legal in Nebraska. Other decisions on this topic were also presented.

Mariel Harding and Joanna Murray presented on Nebraska Family Planning and Title X

Title X is a five-year grant. Provide family planning as preventive healthcare. There are 11 agencies and 34 clinics. 39% of client served are in their 20's and 57% below FPL. Other statistics were presented. Working with partners to align with OPA's pillars-access, equity and quality.

### **General Discussion:**

Discussion held on Open Meeting Act requirement-In-person meetings.

Executive Order 22-02 will sunset in Sept, so Council will need to have at least 2 of their meetings in-person. Location options presented. A survey will be sent out to members requesting their preferences.

Public statements being released via social media on Dobb's decision, access to reproductive care, structural racism, and gun violence. Does the Council need to be active and engaging? What process? Position, Consequences, Value added? Is it within wheelhouse? Where released? To be a group that matters, need to take action. Depends on issue and concisely address issue with solutions. Effective statement content-data, recommendations and Nebraska specific. Legislative Committee will work on this.

**General Announcement:** None

### **Next Meeting:**

Next meeting is scheduled for October 27th from 1:00pm -4:00pm. Location-TBD.

**Adjourned:**

The meeting Adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Meeting Minutes: Shirley Pickens White